

RELIGIOUS STUDIES GCSE TOLWORTH GIRLS' SCHOOL



RELIGIOUS STUDIES GCSE

Religious Studies GCSE at Tolworth Girls' School

All students complete the GCSE Religious Studies programme with us.

It is exam assessed with exams in the summer of Y11.

It has two papers: Christianity: Religion and Ethics and Islam: Religion, Peace and Conflict.

Our GCSE is with Edexcel Specification B (Full Course).

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/religious-studies-b-2016.html>



WHAT IS RELIGIOUS STUDIES GCSE?

What is Religious Studies?

Religious Studies is about finding out what people believe and why.

It looks at the **ultimate** and big **questions of life** such as:

What is the meaning of life? What happens to us after we die?

Is there a being in charge of everything or has everything come about randomly?

We explore a range of beliefs to these questions and reflect on the debates between scientific approaches and religious approaches.

Do scientific developments make religious views out of date?

We explore why religious views state their viewpoints are not out-dated.



WHAT IS RELIGIOUS STUDIES GCSE?

We will also explore and consider some of the fundamental **ethical issues** that matter to us and to our place in society.

Issues such as:

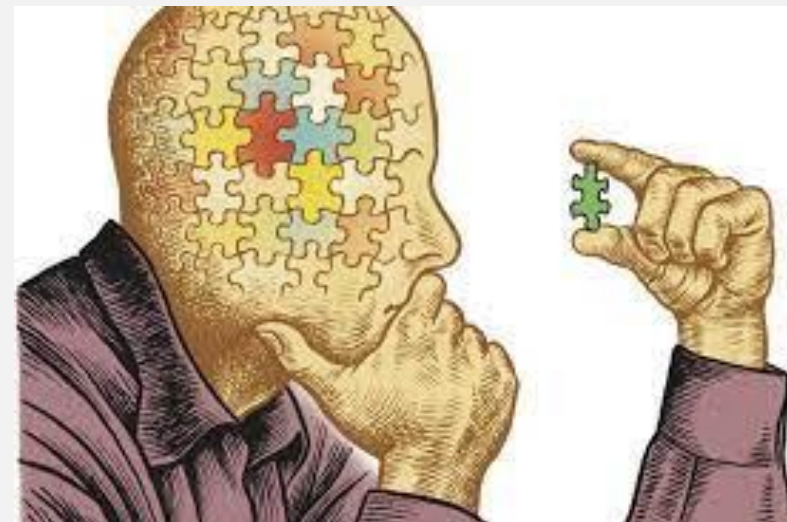
- Crime and punishment and our legal systems
- Life issues such as abortion and euthanasia
- Attitudes to marriage and family and our place in society
- Attitudes to peace and conflict in the world today

We explore how beliefs may affect lifestyles and the actions people may choose to do.

Does your character matter? What if this is your only life? Do we have duties to others?



WHAT WILL RELIGIOUS STUDIES GCSE DO FOR YOU?



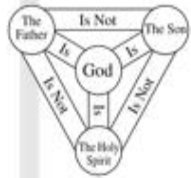
WHAT WILL RELIGIOUS STUDIES GCSE DO FOR YOU?

Religious Studies will help develop your key skills in communication, working with others, problem solving and improving your own learning. It will also give you skills in making decisions about moral problems, and help you to become sure about your own beliefs and explain them clearly to others. **It is not about making you religious, it is about enabling you to think for yourself about religious and moral issues. You do not need a 'faith' to enjoy this course - atheists are just as welcome as curious believers.**

A GCSE in Religious Studies is a stepping stone to a wide range of **future opportunities**. The skills you develop will support you in further studies and employment. Religious Studies will teach the skills and understanding needed to work with people of all faiths and cultures. These skills are vitally important in all careers especially professions such as law enforcement, teaching and the armed forces - in fact any profession that brings you into contact with other people. Students studying Religious Studies will develop their ability to construct well-argued, well-informed, balanced and structured written arguments as well as encourage them to reflect on and develop their own values, beliefs and attitudes. **It equips students with the essential tools and qualities to enable them to function both effectively and efficiently as responsible, broad-minded citizens in an increasingly pluralistic society and global community.**

COURSE OVERVIEW – CHRISTIANITY: RELIGION AND ETHICS

Christian Beliefs



The Trinity

Eschatology

The Problem of Evil and Suffering



Solutions to the Problem of Evil and Suffering

Incarnation



The Creation of the Universe and Humanity



Salvation



Jesus's Last Days



Living the Christian Life

Worship



Sacraments

The Importance of the Local Church



Prayer

The Worldwide Church



Pilgrimage



Religious Celebrations



Future of the Church



Marriage and the Family

Marriage



Gender Prejudice and Discrimination



Equality of Men and Women

Family Planning



Support for the Family in the Local Parish

Families



Sexual Relationships

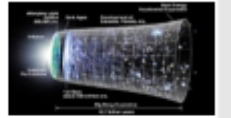


Divorce & Remarriage



Matters of Life and Death

Origins and Value of the Universe



Death and the Afterlife

Non-religious Arguments Against Life After Death

Sanctity of Life



Abortion



Euthanasia

Origins and Value of Human Life



The Natural World

COURSE OVERVIEW – ISLAM: RELIGION, PEACE AND CONFLICT

Section 1 - Beliefs

In this unit you will learn about important key beliefs in Islam:

- The six beliefs of Islam:
- The five roots of Usul ad-Din in Shi'a Islam
- The Nature of Allah
- Risalah - prophethood in Islam and its importance
- Muslim holy books (Kutub): Qur'an, Tawrat, Zabur, Injil
- Malaikah: the nature and importance of angels for Muslims;
- Al-Qadr: the nature and importance of pre-destination
- Akhirah: Muslim teachings about life after death
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Section 4 - Peace & Conflict

In this unit you will learn about Islamic attitudes to the following issues:

- Attitudes to peace and peace-making
- Attitudes to conflict
- Attitudes to pacifism
- Attitudes to the Just War Theory
- Attitudes to holy wars
- Attitudes to weapons of mass destruction (WMD)

You will learn about important teachings and divergent viewpoints.



Section 2 - Crime & Punishment

In this unit you will learn about Islamic attitudes to the following issues

- Justice
- Attitudes towards crime
- Teachings about good, evil & suffering
- Attitudes towards punishment
- Forgiveness
- How criminals should be treated
- The death penalty



You will learn about important teachings and divergent viewpoints.

Section 3 - Living the Muslim Life

In this unit you will learn about Islamic ideas and practices on:

- Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'a Islam
- Shahadah
- Salah
- Sawm
- Zakah
- Hajj
- Jihad
- Id-ul-Adha and Id-ul-Fitr
- Id-ul-Ghadeer and Ashura

You will learn about important teachings and divergent viewpoints.



RELIGIOUS STUDIES - A FINAL THING

In everything we do, we will look respectfully at different viewpoints, religious and non-religious views.

Students are taught in an environment that is respectful, open-minded and open to learning.

Our students will acquire an academic GCSE with an appreciation/understanding of others.

